

**Tuesday, October 23, 2007**

| House Meets At...   | Votes Predicted At... |
|---|-----------------------|
| 9:00 a.m. For Morning Hour<br>10:00 a.m. For Legislative Business<br><br>Unlimited "One-minutes" Per Side | Last Vote: 7:00 p.m.  |

**Any anticipated Member absences for votes this week should be reported to the Office of the Majority Whip at 226-3210.**

### **Floor Schedule and Procedure**

- **Suspension Bills:** Today, the House will consider several bills on the Suspension calendar. Bills considered on the Suspension calendar are debatable for 40 minutes; may not be amended; and require a two-thirds vote for passage. If a recorded vote is requested, it will be postponed.
  1. **H.R. 1955** - Violent Radicalization and Homegrown Terrorism Prevention Act of 2007 (*Rep. Harman – Homeland Security / Judiciary*)
  2. **H.R. 1680** – Secure Handling of Ammonium Nitrate Act of 2007 (*Rep. Thompson (MS) – Homeland Security*)
  3. **H.R. 2868** - To eliminate the exemption from State regulation for certain securities designated by national securities exchanges (*Rep. Meeks – Financial Services*)
  4. **H.R. 327** - Joshua Omvig Veterans Suicide Prevention Act (*Rep. Boswell – Veterans' Affairs*)
  5. **H.R. 1808** - To designate the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Augusta, Georgia, as the "Charlie Norwood Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center" (*Rep. Kingston - Veterans' Affairs*)
  6. **H.R. 2408** - To designate the Department of Veterans Affairs outpatient clinic in Green Bay, Wisconsin, as the "Milo C. Huempfner Department of Veterans Affairs Outpatient Clinic" (*Rep. Kagen – Veterans' Affairs*)

7. **H.Res. 680** - Condemning the actions of September 7, 2007, resulting in damage to the Vietnam Veterans War Memorial (*Rep. Carter – Veterans' Affairs*)
  8. **H.Res. 237** - Supporting and encouraging greater support for Veterans Day each year (*Rep. Baca – Veterans' Affairs*)
  9. **H.R. \_\_\_\_** - Third Higher Education Extension Act of 2007 (*Rep. George Miller – Education and Labor*)
- **H. Res. 763–Rule providing for consideration of H.R. 1011 - Virginia Ridge and Valley Act of 2007 (Rep. Cardoza-Rules):** The structured rule provides one hour of debate in the House equally divided and controlled by the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee on Natural Resources. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Natural Resources now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule provides that the amendment printed in the Rules Committee report shall be in order if offered by Rep. Goodlatte or his designee. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Debate on the rule will be managed by Rep. Cardoza, and will proceed as follows:
    - One hour of debate on the rule.
    - Possible vote on a Democratic motion to move the previous question. **Democrats are urged to vote yes on the motion.**
    - Vote on adoption of the rule. **Democrats are urged to vote yes on adoption of the rule.**
  - **H.R. 1011 - Virginia Ridge and Valley Act of 2007(Rep. Boucher–Natural Resources):** Pursuant to the rule, debate on the bill will be managed by Natural Resources Committee Chair Rep. Nick Rahall, or his designee, and will proceed as follows:
    - One hour of debate on the bill.
    - Possible debate and vote on an amendment to the bill.
    - Possible debate and vote on a Republican motion to recommit the bill.
    - Vote on final passage of the bill. **Democrats are urged to vote yes on final passage.**

- **Possible consideration of H. Res. 675-Rule providing for consideration of H.R. 1483 - Celebrating America's Heritage Act (Rep. Sutton-Rules)** : The closed rule provides one hour of debate in the House equally divided and controlled by the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee on Natural Resources. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Natural Resources now printed in the bill, modified by the amendment printed in the report of the Committee on Rules to accompany this resolution, shall be considered as adopted and shall be considered as read. Provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Debate on the rule will be managed by Rep. Sutton, and consideration will proceed as follows:
  - One hour of debate on the rule.
  - Possible vote on a Democratic motion to move the previous question. **Democrats are urged to vote yes on the motion.**
  - Vote on adoption of the rule. **Democrats are urged to vote yes on adoption of the rule.**
- **Possible consideration of H.R. 1483 - Celebrating America's Heritage Act (Rep. Regula-Natural Resources)**: Pursuant to the rule, debate on the bill will be managed by Natural Resources Committee Chair Rep. Nick Rahall, and will proceed as follows:
  - One hour of debate on the bill.
  - Possible debate and vote on a Republican motion to recommit the bill.
  - Vote on final passage of the bill. **Democrats are urged to vote yes on final passage.**

## **Bill Summary and Key Issues**

### **H.R. 1011 - Virginia Ridge and Valley Act of 2007**

H.R. 1011 designates nearly 43,000 acres of the Jefferson National Forest as wilderness and nearly 12,000 acres as National Scenic Areas. The bill designates six new wilderness areas, makes six additions to existing wilderness areas, adds a new wilderness study area, creates two new National Scenic Areas, and directs the Forest Service to develop trail plans.

Areas Recommended or Endorsed for Designation. Each of the areas contained in H.R. 1011 were either recommended for designation as part of the Jefferson National Forest Plan or have been endorsed by the relevant local County Board of Supervisors. All of the areas in H.R. 1011 are located in the district of Representative Boucher, with the exception of a parcel in the district of Natural Resources Committee Chairman Nick J. Rahall, II.

Bipartisan Bill with Broad Support. H.R. 1011 is cosponsored by a bipartisan group of Representatives from Virginia, including Reps. Frank Wolf, Tom Davis, Jim Moran, and Bobby Scott. The Senate companion measure is sponsored by Senator John Warner and cosponsored by Senator Jim Webb. Furthermore, H.R. 1011 has broad support from others such as Governor Tim Kaine, four

County Boards of Supervisors, local businesses, state organizations, faith groups, the International Mountain Bicycling Association, and local bear hunters.

### **Anticipated Amendment to H.R. 1011**

**Goodlatte (VA):** The amendment changes the boundary of the Brush Mountain East wilderness area, removing 26 acres which contain a power line; changes the boundaries of the Seng Mountain Scenic Area, removing 1,263 acres from the area to allow continued use of the Barton Gap Motorized trail and wildlife habitat management in key areas; changes trail language for the Raccoon Branch area, removing specific requirements to locate the trail along Rt 650 and changing the connection road to Forest Development road 49352. (10 Minutes)

### **H.R. 1483 - Celebrating America's Heritage Act**

**Authorizes Funding for Nine Existing National Heritage Areas.** H.R. 1483 would authorize additional funding for nine national heritage areas (NHAs): America's Agricultural Heritage Partnership (Silos and Smokestacks) (IA), Augusta Canal (GA), Essex (MA), Hudson River Valley (NY), Coal (WV), Ohio and Erie Canal (OH), Rivers of Steel (PA), South Carolina (SC), and Tennessee Civil War (TN), and requires the Secretary of the Interior to evaluate the long-term viability of each of these existing national heritage areas.

**Establishes Six New Heritage Areas.** The bill, as amended, would establish six new national heritage areas: Journey through Hallowed Ground NHA (VA, WV, MD and PA); Niagara Falls NHA (NY), Muscle Shoals NHA (AL), Freedom's Way NHA (MA and NH), Abraham Lincoln NHA (AZ); and Santa Cruz Valley NHA (AZ). Each of these proposed national heritage areas have been studied and meet the standards set forth for suitability and feasibility of such areas. Supporters of each area include residents, business interests, nonprofit organizations, and local and state governments who are all involved in the planning. Each proposed national heritage area has also identified a potential management entity and developed a conceptual boundary map that is supported by the public.

**Authorizes Study of Potential New Heritage Area and Make technical corrections to Six Existing NHA's.** H.R. 1483 would require a study of Virginia's Northern Neck as a possible national heritage area; make technical changes to the management language governing the Ohio and Erie Canal National Heritage Corridor, National Coal Heritage Area, and Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor (NY); add counties to the South Carolina and Rivers of Steel NHAs; and temporarily extend the authorization of the New Jersey Coastal Heritage Trail Route.

### **Quote of the Day**

"A decent boldness ever meets with friends" -Homer